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Remarks

Claims 8 and 28 are amended to overcome their objections for informalities.

Claims 2-14, 17, 18, 23, 25, 27, and 30 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 13, 17, 23, 25, and 27 have been rewritten in independent form, and should now be allowed. Claim 5 should be allowable as it depends on allowable base Claim 2. Claim 14 should be allowable as it depends on allowable Claim 13. Claims 9-12 and 30 should be allowable as they depend on allowable base Claim 8. Claim 18 should be allowable as it depends on allowable Claim 17.

Further, Claim 31 has been amended to depend on allowable Claim 3, and Claims 26 and 33 have been amended to depend on allowable Claim 25. Thus, Claims 26, 31, and 33 should also be allowable.

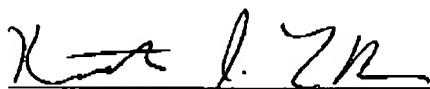
Claims 1, 15, 16, and 24 have been cancelled without prejudice to their inclusion in a Continuation Application to obtain claims of scope to which Applicants believe they are entitled to.

Claims 19-22, 28, 29, and 32 were allowed in the Office Action dated November 17, 2004.

A petition for a two-month extension of time was filed on April 7, 2005. Accordingly, a petition for an additional month extension of time until May 17, 2005 is enclosed to file this Amendment with authorization to charge \$485.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-1101 for the additional petition fee and additional claim fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 17, 2005


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Enclosures: Transmittal of Combined Amendment and Petition for Extension of Time, and accompanying Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile.